

PUBLIC HEALTH ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND HEALTHIER WASHINGTON

Severe Combined Immunodeficiency Disease: Advisory Committee Recommendations

Washington State Board of Health June 13, 2012

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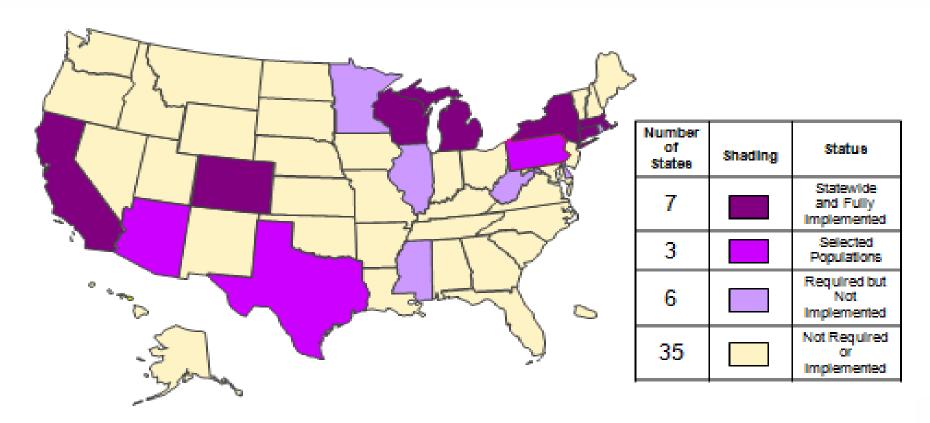
Screening Newborns for Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)

- Background
 - The disease without screening
 - Benefits of early detection
 - HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee Review
 - HHS Secretary's Recommendation May 2010
- Adoption of SCID screening across the country





SCID Screening Across the Country



Source: National Newborn Screening Governmental Resource Center – 5/18/12 Update



Advisory Committee Meeting

- Washington State NBS Advisory Committee met all day February 22, 2012
- Heard presentations from experts related to SCID and the Board's five criteria (in your packet)
- Unanimous agreement that SCID meets the first four criteria
- Two committee members had questions on the cost benefit analysis - were the costs associated with false positives adequately estimated?



Advisory Committee Cost Benefit

- We worked with the specialists at Seattle Children's Hospital to fully explore likely costs for babies with false positive SCID test results
- Revised analysis (in your packet) and found the ratio of benefits to costs shifted a little – about \$1 of cost yields about \$5 benefit





Advisory Committee Recommendation

- With the additional information, all advisory committee members now agree that SCID also meets the cost benefit criteria
- SCID screening should be added to Washington's newborn screening panel





Fiscal Impact of SCID Screening

- Sizeable fiscal impact to program
- Cannot be accommodated within existing budget
- Implementation would require new equipment, staff, and modification of laboratory space



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Newborn Screening Financing

- Newborn screening is financed through a fee charged to all infants born in Washington
- The current fee is \$60.90 per birth
- Fee is paid by the hospitals
 - As part of the cost to parents for delivery
 - Typically reimbursed through insurance or Medicaid
- Increased cost for SCID is about \$7.10 per birth





Program Costs

- Estimate of 85,000 births in Washington
- Cost of fee increase over \$600,000
- Fee increase includes revenue to cover:
 - Staffing
 - Equipment
 - Test kits





Fee Increase Process

- Agencies must obtain approval from the Governor to increase fees
- The Legislature must approve any fee increase
- Then the department can increase the fee and use the revenue to support SCID screening





The Cost to Our Partners

- More than half the births in Washington are paid by Medicaid, which is about half federal funds and half state general fund
- Medicaid, now part of the Health Care Authority, has worked with us in analyzing the impact of these new costs
- Preliminary agreement to increase reimbursement to cover the cost of SCID screening





Actions Needed Prior to Beginning Screening

- Fee increase
- Medicaid reimbursement changes
- Test implementation



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